

The Opus

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September 2020

President's Message

Welcome to another school year! It seems like it's been years but also like it was only yesterday we were last in our classrooms. I'm sure this school year will bring many challenges but also opportunities. COVID-19 has been with us now for over six months, half a year, and yet we are all still trying to find our way through the paths it has left for us. We are worried about our personal safety, our loved one's safety and our students' safety. We are anxious about how to navigate our programs and curriculum given the parameters the government and district have set out for us. However, we are stronger together and I feel that as a group of professionals we have never been closer, more collaborative or more engaged in professional development than we have been in the last six months. I am confident that no matter what COVID-19 throws our way, music specialists will tackle it with professionalism, creativity and confidence.

Throughout the last several months the MSIC has been working closely with our provincial counterparts to develop guidelines, safe practices and curriculum strategies for a safe and authentic return to classroom learning. We have worked together to share our challenges and triumphs. We worked

tirelessly over the summer meeting with the NLTA and NLESD to discuss health and safety and the best strategies for delivering the curriculum. We also lobbied for wording in job advertisements to be clear and accurately reflect the job so that the most qualified candidate was hired, following our collective agreement. We had great dialogue and success and did see some job ads removed and readvertised with different wording. While this has been one of the most challenging periods we have had as an organization, it has also been one of the most successful and inspiring periods.

This will be my last newsletter address as President as my second term ends October 31st. I would like to thank the Executive, Full Board and Membership for all of your support, commitment and dedication to music education in Newfoundland and Labrador. It has been a privilege to have been on the MSIC Executive for the last eight years and I am thankful for the teamwork that has come along with this position.

I wish you all the best for a safe, healthy and successful year.



NLTA Music Special Interest Council 2018-2020

Provincial Executive

President	Ashley Beresford	Bishop Feild Elem/Holy Family Elem – St. John's	ashleyberesford@nlesd.ca
Vice-President	Michelle Collins	CBS Elementary, CBS	michellicollins@nlesd.ca
Treasurer	Sarah Caines	Newtown Elementary – Mount Pearl	sarahcaines@nlesd.ca
Secretary	Catherine Hoven	Fogo Island Central Academy – Fogo Island	catherinetaylor@nlesd.ca
Communications	A. Rebecca McDonald	Mary Queen of Peace Elementary – St. John's	rebeccamcdonald1@nlesd.ca
Avalon East	Leigh Ann Ryan	Beachy Cove Elem. – Portugal Cove - St. Philips	leighannryan@nlesd.ca
Avalon West	Tiffany Smith	Persalvic School – Victoria	tiffanysmith@nlesd.ca
Central	Amanda Hollett	Pearce Junior High – Burin Bay Arm	amandahollett@nlesd.ca
Western	Jennifer Stratton - Renouf	J.J. Curling Elementary	jenniferstratton-renouf@nlesd.ca
Northern Peninsula	Cheryl Knight	White Hills Academy – St. Anthony	cherylknight@nlesd.ca
Labrador	Christopher Ryan	Eric G. Lambert School – Churchill Falls	christopherryan@nalcenergy.com
Independent	Vincenza Etchegary	St. Bonaventure's College – St. John's	vetchegary@gmail.com
Affiliate	Vacant		
Student	Kristian Butt	Memorial University	kristianbutt@nlesd.ca

Resonate 2020 Registration is Now Live!

This year our conference is virtual and free of charge, but you have to be a paid member of the MSIC to attend. You DO need to register for your sessions as there is a participant limit for each one. Most sessions will be recorded and available to members via our website at a later date.

Register at www.nlmsic.com

You can become or renew your membership through the "Membership" page on our website. Payment can be made directly to Sarah Caines, or via credit card or Paypal on our website.

A reminder of the membership costs:

Full Member: 1 year (\$50); 2 year (\$100)

Available to all members of the NLTA and supervisors or directors of music. Includes voting privileges, NLTA Music Council publications, CMEA membership, journals and newsletters. \$25 CMEA, \$25

MSIC Associate Member:

1 year (\$35); 2 year (\$70)

Available to all private music teachers or any person interested in music education. Includes voting privileges, NLTA Music Council publications, CMEA membership, and newsletters only. \$12.50 CMEA, \$22.50

MSIC Student Member:

1 year (\$22.50); 2 year (\$45)

Available only to full-time students. Includes all privileges of full membership, except voting privileges. \$12.50 CMEA, \$8 MSIC



Resonate 2020 Schedule

NLTA Music Special Interest Council

RESONATE 2020 - Virtual - October 30th, 2020

8:45-9:45	The COVID Bandroom - Sarah Comerford	Getting started with Live Online Music Teaching/Learning for Beginners - Andrew Mercer	Movement and Folk Dancing in a Socially Distanced Classroom (*pre-recorded) - Aileen Miracle	Teaching on a Cart and the Unconventional Music Room - Becky Rendell
10:00-11:00	Google Classroom for Band - Sarah Comerford	Scratch and Music - Brilliant Labs	Moving in a Virtual World (*Zoom) - Dr. David Buley	Breaking Down Barriers: The Power of Music for Special Needs Students - Sherry Crowley & Kenny Curlew
11:15-12:15	The Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra: Connecting with K-12 Music Education in Newfoundland and Labrador... and Beyond! - Jennifer Brennan	Sonic Pi - Brilliant Labs	The Moving Ear – Ideas for the Aural Skills Class (*Zoom) - Dr. David Buley	Sharing Session Grades K-6
12:15-1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00-2:00	Indigenous Culture and the Music Room (*pre-recorded) - Deantha Edmunds	Real-World Strategies for Effective Online Music Education - Andrew Mercer	Teaching Simple Composition in a Virtual Classroom - Susanne O'Keefe	Sharing Session Grades 7-12
2:15-3:15	Keynote: André de Quadros	Keynote: André de Quadros	Keynote: André de Quadros	Keynote: André de Quadros
3:30	BGM & Awards	BGM & Awards	BGM & Awards	BGM & Awards

Notice of BGM

The NLTA Music Special Interest Council will be holding its Biennial General Meeting on October 30, 2020, at 3:30 p.m. NL time, via Google Meet.

The Google Meet link and an agenda will be shared on our official Facebook page, www.facebook.com/NLMSIC

Please note: the following motion will be presented at this meeting: *That the NLTA Music Special Interest Council be renamed the Newfoundland & Labrador Music Educator's Association (NLMEA)*

Rationale: to align and show affiliation with our counterparts across Canada to be easily identified as the professional organization for Music Educators, we would adopt Newfoundland & Labrador Music Educator's Association (NLMEA)

Call for Nominations

This serves as a notice for the upcoming Music Special Interest Council Biennial General Meeting, to be held on October 30, 2020, at 3:30 p.m. NL time, via Google Meet. MSIC elections will take place during this time.

The following Executive positions are open for nomination:

- President
- Vice President



- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Communications Officer

The following Full Board positions are open for nomination:

- Avalon East
- Avalon West
- Central
- Western
- Northern Peninsula
- Labrador
- Associate
- Independent
- Student

Save the Date: Decolonizing the Music Room

The team from Decolonizing the Music Room will be sharing a professional learning session from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. (Newfoundland time) on **Monday, March 1, 2021**. More information will follow at a later date.



MSIC Professional Travel Fund

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we know there will be little to no travel to attend professional development, so for the 2020-21 school year this fund has been renamed the *Virtual Professional Development Fund*. If you are applying to attend conferences or workshops that have a registration fee please feel free to apply for funding to assist. A maximum grant of \$250 per member, per year, is available on a first come, first serve basis until the fund for the year has been depleted.

Application: <https://forms.gle/exoct5S88WEWMKsL6>

